to set up the statutory State Consumer Protection Councils in the light of the guidelines issued to them. Prior to this enactment, a number of States such as Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Orissa, Tripura, West Bengal, Rajasthan, etc., had set up advisory Consumer Protection Councils which will be reconstituted by them in accordance with the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act. The resolutions of the State Consumer Protection Councils will be recommendatory and the existing provisions are considered adequate for their functioning.

New Cropping Pattern for Drought Prone Areas

2912. SHRI J.P. GOYAL. Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified the drought prone areas in the country, if so, the details in this regard;

(b) the extent of loss of crops in the drought prone areas in different States during the year 1986;

(c) the extent of central assistance provided to the concerned States;

(d) whether any schemes have been implemented to diversify cropping pattern in drought prone areas; and

(e) the measures taken under those schemes to provide necessary incentives to the farmers to grow new crops other than traditional crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) 615 blocks of 90 districts in 13 States have been identified as chronically drought prone areas and covered under the Drought Prone Areas Programme. The details of coverage under DPAP are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) A statement (Statement-II) indicating the extent of cropped area affected due to drought during 1986-87 (postmonsoon) is enclosed (*See* below).

(c) A statement (Statement-III) indicating ceilings of expenditure approved for drought relief during 1986-87 to the States/Union Territories is enclosed (See below).

In addition, during 1986-87, Central assistance has also released under DPAP as follows:

State	Amount (in lakhs (Position as on 17-3-87)
1. Andhra Pradesh	517·50
2. Bihar	378·75
3. Gujarat	322·50
4. Harvana	67·50
5. Jammu & Kashmir	97·50
6. Karnataka	532·50
7. Madhya Pradesh	337·50
8. Maharashtra	555·00
9. Orissa	292·50
10. Rajasthan	225·00
11. Tamil Nadu	322·50
12. Uttar Pradesh	652·50
13. West Bengal	234·76
TOTAL:	4536·01

(d) and (e) Restructuring of cropping pattern and introduction of crops which are suited to drought conditions are promoted under DPAP through appropriate crop demonstrations, extension support, training of farmers, land shaping and development and suitable water conservation and management devices and agronomic prac-

tices. The Programme has a provision for subsidy to individual beneficiaries for land development etc., no direct incentives have been provided for introduction of alternative cropping pattern.

Under the Centrally sponsored scheme of National Watershed Development Programme for rainfed Agriculture, 99 districts in 16 States have been selected for stablishing and increasing crop production from rainfed farming and dissemination of new technology for soil and moisture conservation.

Statement-I

Coverage of the Drought prone Areas Programme during the Seventh Five Year Plan

	State	No. of District	No of blocks
1	Andhra	8	69
2	Bihar	5	54
3	Gujarat	8	43
4	Haryana	1	9
5	Jammu & Kashmir	2	13
6	Karnataka	11	71
7	Madhya Pradesh	6	49
8	Maharashtra	12	74
9	Orissa	4	39
10	Rajasthan	8	30
11	Tamil Nadu	6	43
12	Uttar Pradesh	16	87
13	West Bengal	3	34
	TOTAL	90	615

Statement-II

The Extent of Cropped area affected due to drought during 1986-87 *(Post Monsoon)*

(PROVISIONAL)

S.No.	States	Cropped Area Affected (In lakh HA).
1	Andhra Pradesh	11.00
2	Assam	5.58
3	Gujarat	75.66
4	Haryana	9.39

S. No.	State	Cropped Area Affected (In lakh H.A.)
5	Himachal Pradesh	3.65
6	Karnataka	Being assessed
7	Kerala	1.84
8	Madhya Pradesh	33.41
9	Manipur	1.88
10	Maharashtra	12.77
11	Orissa	4.76
12	Pondicherry	0.04
13	Rajasthan	100.58
14	Tamil Nadu	1.36
15	Tripura	0.37
16	Uttar Pradesh	89.01
17	Delhi	0.20
18	Goa	0.31
19	Meghalaya	0.19
20	Nagaland	1.87
	TOTAL	353.78

Statement

Ceiling of Expenditure Approved for Drought Relief During 1986-87 *to the States UT| Affected During Post Monsoon Period (Provisional)*

S.No.	State/UT	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1	Andhra Pradesh	23.19+25.19 for 1987-88
2	Assam	7.40
3	Bihar	—
4	Gujarat	—
5	Haryana	16.70
6	Himachal Pradesh	0.70
7	Jammu & Kashmir	—
8	Karnataka	—
9	Kerala	—

S. No.	State/UT	Amou (Rs. in crores)
10	Madhya Pradesh	12.00+6.28 for 1987-88
11	Maharashtra	23.98+12.29 for 1987-88
12	*Manipur*	*0.76*
13	Meghalaya	0.17
14	Orissa	—
15	Punjab	—
16	Rajasthan	42.75+12.07 for 1987-88
17	Sikkim	—
18	Tripura	—
19	Tamil Nadu	31.77
20	Uttar Pradesh	10.88
21	West Bengal	—
	TOTAL	170 30
22	Delhi	—
23	Mizoram	—
24	*Pondicherry*	*0.06*
	TOTAL	170.36

Watchmen in the FCI, Punjab Region

2913. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Food Corporation of India, Punjab Region recently has off loaded jobs of watchmen to private contractors who are not registered under the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) directly recruited casual watchmen whose services were discontinued during the last two years and the number of watchmen recruited sub-Act, 1970; and

(b) if so what is the number of sequently through private agencies?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) Since 1983, FCI in Punjab Region is engaging security personnel from private security agencies to meet the minimum essential watch and ward requirements. The Corporation's establishment in Punjab Region has registered itself as required under the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970. The security agencies have been advised by the Corporation to obtain the necessary licence as required under the Act.

(b) In total, direct deployment of 80 casual watchmen was discontinued in the Punjab Region.